

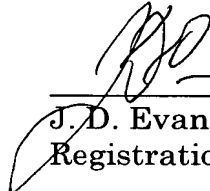
**REMARKS**

The foregoing amendments are submitted correct a clerical error in the number of a Japanese application cited in the specification, to incorporate amendments made during the international phase, and to eliminate multiple claim dependencies. Entry of the amendments before examination of the application is respectfully requested.

If there are any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned at (202) 624-2845 would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

Respectfully submitted,

April 28, 2006

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
J. D. Evans  
Registration No. 26,269

CROWELL & MORING LLP  
Intellectual Property Group  
P.O. Box 14300  
Washington, DC 20044-4300  
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500  
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844  
JDE:lkt  
dn#2759626